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TIME-TABLE.

WEEK DAYS.	
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6.45 p.m. and 9.00 p.m. 8.30 to 11.00 p.m.
Every Half-Hour.
11.00 p.m. to 11.45 p.m. Every Quarter-Hour.
SUNDAYS.

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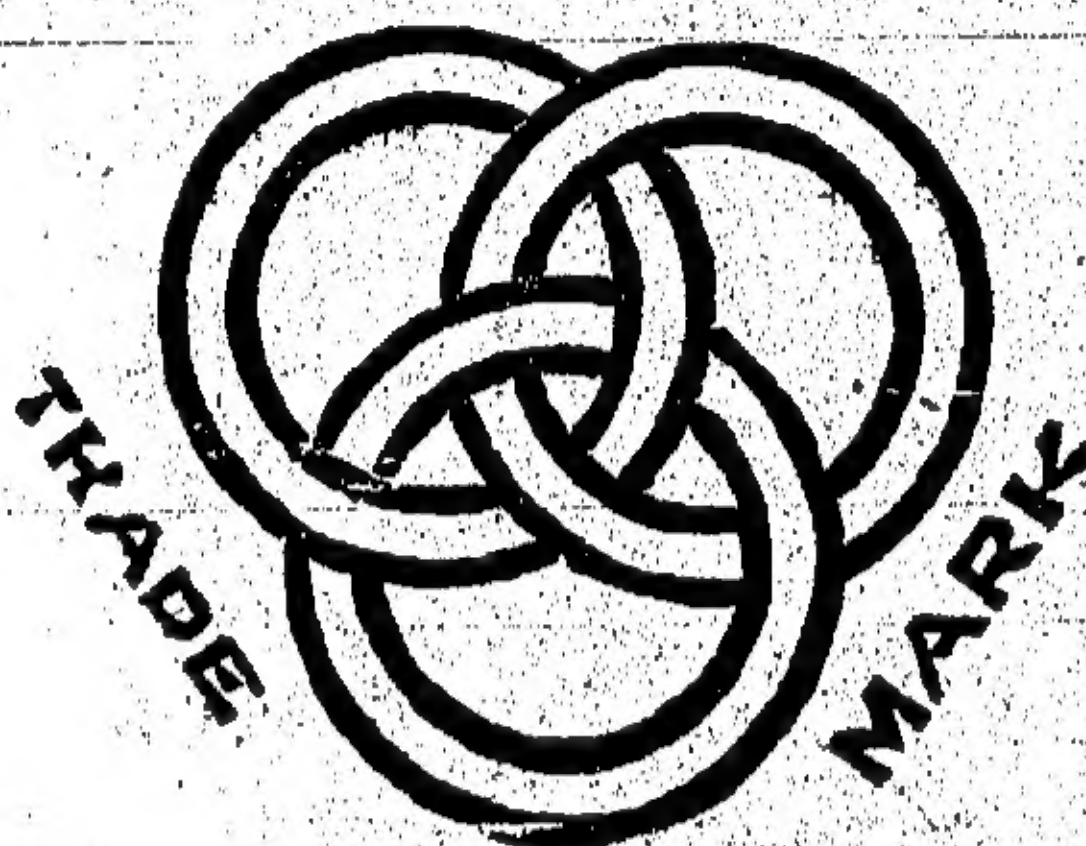
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CO., LTD.,

LONDON.

HONGKONG SHARE MARKET.

Messrs. Vernon & Smyth, in their weekly share report dated the 23rd February, 1917, state:—

Since our last report of 16th, our local market has been very dull and, in consequence of Settlement influences and a few forced sales, prices of most of the speculative stocks have weakened to a material extent, but now that the Settlement has been concluded there is more tendency to buy apparent, and, after the Race Holidays of 26/28th inst., it looks as though we might see a better demand than has been experienced during the last few weeks. Investment stocks continue dull and difficult of sale. Shanghai market remains in a very dull condition and but little doing. Singapore market for Rubber shares is rather better and the price of the raw material is well maintained. The following are to-day's wired prices from Singapore:—

Alor Gajah	3.50
Ayer Panas	1.50
Glenagly	2.25
Kedahs	4.00
Kempas	8.10
Malacca Pindas	2.40
Malakoffs	4.75
New Serendubs	4.30
Sandycrofts	5.00
Tapias	21.00

Plantation Rubber in London is 3/31 per lb. Bar Silver is quoted 37 9/16. Sterling T.T. 2/3½. Singapore T.T. is 93½. Shanghai T.T. and the Bank's buying rate for 30/6 Bills are both nominal.

BANKS.—Shares are on offer at \$710, and a sale is said to have been made at something under \$700.

MARINE INSURANCES.—No sales are reported and rates are unchanged at the nominal prices quoted last week.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Nothing has been done and prices are nominal and unaltered.

SHIPPING.—Market has been depressed, owing to rumours of several local steamers being taken up by the British Government. Douglases, after sales at \$115 and \$112, have receded to a quotation of \$109, at which shares are on offer. Indo-China have weakened to \$125 for the deferred, at which shares can be obtained. Preferred are unaltered at \$41½ nominal. Steamboats are also nominal at \$19.

Star Ferries are quoted \$33 nominal. Oils.—Nothing has been done in this market. Shells remain at 100/- nominal. Langkats are wanted at \$19, with sellers asking \$20. Ural Caspians unchanged at \$9½ nominal.

REVENUES.—China Sugars have weakened considerably, and after sales at \$110½, downwards, were done at \$110½ to close. Settlement transactions, Malibons have been quiet, and are quoted \$33 ex dividend of 5 pesos.

MINING.—Business is quite at a standstill. Kallans are nominal at \$38½, and Tronohs \$30½. Raubs are on offer at \$32½, but there are probable buyers at \$32.

DUCKS, WHARVES AND GOOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have announced a surprisingly good final dividend of \$3½, subject to audit, but, in the dull condition of the market, price of the shares is only a shade better at \$128½. Wharves are scarcely so firm as last week, and they are on offer at \$34 ex dividend of \$0 just paid. Shanghai Docks are quoted \$32 nominal.

LANDS, HOUSES AND BUILDINGS.—No business is reported. Lands are in request at \$91, and Humphreys Estates at \$64. Hotels are offering at \$107 ex dividend, and West Point at \$73. Kowloon Lands are nominal at \$33, and Central Estates at \$33.

COTTON MILLS.—Beyond an improvement in Shanghai Cottons to a buying rate of Tls. 115, there is little to note. Kung Yiks are on offer at Tls. 13½, and Yangtzepeos Tls. 5½, while Ewos remain nominal at Tls. 145.

MISCELLANEOUS.—With sales of 10,000 Settlement a/c's, the price of Cements receded to \$11 cash. They are now rather better with buyers at \$11.10. The Company have announced the 15th March as the date for the return of \$2.50 per share of the capital. Tramways have been done at \$7.20, and Peak Tramways at \$9.60. Dairy Farms have come to business at \$24, and there are further buyers. China Lights are wanted at \$4.35, and China Borneos \$7½. Electrics are in demand at \$49. China Providents are for sale at \$9.

MEMOS.—The following meeting is advertised to take place: Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, on 24th February. Next Settlement Day, 29th March.

MYSTERIOUS DISAPPEARANCE
OF A Y.M.C.A. SECRETARY.

Mr. J. H. Dadisman, secretary of the Young Men's Christian Association of Nanking, is missing (says *The China Press* of the 16th inst.). He was a passenger on the steamer *Han Fenging*, en route from Ningpo to Shanghai, but he was not to be found in his cabin when the steamer reached the latter port. The authorities are making a careful search to ascertain his whereabouts.

Mr. Dadisman had not been in good health recently, having suffered chiefly from nerve trouble, and he took the trip to Ningpo mainly for health reasons. He was last seen about nine p.m. on Thursday, when he left the dining saloon and retired for the night. He then appeared to be in his usual health. Nothing further was known until the ship came alongside early next morning, when his fellow travellers, after waiting for some time, went to his cabin. They found it empty and the missing man's clothes lying in the cabin. The bed, apparently, had been slept in.

Mr. Dadisman was between 35 and 40 years of age and had been about two years in the Far East. He was married, and his wife and one daughter are living in Shanghai.

CHINESE NEWS.

GERMAN INTERESTS IN CHINA.

A report says that interested parties have made investigations into the German interests in the various parts of this country, and a brief estimate has been drawn up. According to the estimate, the total amount of German capital invested in various kinds of enterprises in China aggregates \$250,700,000, and there are altogether 244 German companies, the number of German residents, being estimated at about 3,740 persons. Several mines have been opened by Germans, notably the coal mine in Fante and the iron mine in Kinglingcheng. The northern section of the Tientsin-Pukow Railway and the Kinchow-Tientsin Railway are also German enterprises, the two making a total mileage of 600 miles. The Germans contracted to build some other railways, but so far the Tientsin-Pukow and the Tientsin-Kinchow Railways are the only lines completed.

THE GERMAN MINISTER'S
MORTIFICATION.

Writing on the subject of the Chinese Government's protest in Germany, the *Forerunner* correspondent of the *Yokohama Daily News* relates the following story:—A German miscalculation that occurred during the week has caused some amusement here. The Legation authorities, as already indicated, were convinced no definite step would be taken without reference to Parliament, and that Parliament might be suitably influenced. Invitations for a grand reception at the German Legation were sent out. All the high officials of the Government were bidden, as well as the representatives of the people. The Government, however, as we know, acted with too much precipitation for German plans. The Note was presented on Friday. The reception was for the following evening—a day too late. That did not prevent the attendance of all who are great and distinguished in Peking officialdom.

It must have been a great pleasure to the German Minister to see his fast diminishing stock of champagne lapped up by the personages who were responsible for the presentation of the famous Note.

CHINA PREPARING.

A military conference was held in the President's Office on the 15th inst. The Chief of the General Staff, the Minister of the Navy, the Vice-Minister of War, and other prominent military officers were present. The improvement of the army and navy and the reorganization of arsenals were discussed. It is reported that Admiral Sah Chen-ping may again be sent to the South on a mission of inspection.

RECRUITING OF CHINESE
LABOURERS.

Mr. Ku Chung-shin, Minister of Agriculture, has drafted the regulations governing the recruiting for foreigners of Chinese labourers. The regulations will deal with the qualifications of the contractor undertaking such recruiting, and the method to be pursued. A law is also being drafted relating to measures for the protection of Chinese labourers going abroad. The law has been examined by the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and of the Interior, and is now being discussed by the Cabinet.

BRASS CASH IN SHANTUNG.

According to advices from Shantung, brass cash has been exported to Japan in large quantities against the strict prohibition of the local officials. Japanese merchants have erected furnaces within the railway zone to smelt the brass cash into bars. They have collected the cash at the rate of \$25 each hundred catties, and sold it abroad at the rate of \$49.40. Many fortunes have been made out of this illegal business.

FUNDS FOR GENERAL LUNG.

General Lung Chi-kuang, Director General of the Mines of Kwangtung and Kwangsi, has submitted a petition to the Government reporting the progress of the establishment of the Mining Bureau, and demanding that another sum of \$400,000 be immediately remitted to him to maintain the Bureau. After the demand had been discussed in a Cabinet meeting, the Minister of Finance was instructed to issue without delay the amount requisitioned to meet the urgent need of the ex-Tuchua of Kwangtung.

DR. SUN YAT-SEN'S COMMERCIAL
VENTURE.

In pursuance of his industrial and commercial plans, Dr. Sun Yat-sen has started the organization of a stock-broking business in Shanghai. The venture will be a limited liability company with a capital of \$5,000,000 to deal in foreign and Chinese stock and bond business. Dr. Sun has recently been urged several times by the Government to go up to the capital. President Li is specially desirous to see him.

DISABLED GERMAN PRISONERS
IN JAPAN.

As already reported, the Japanese Government recently decided to send back to Germany, through the United States, 17 disabled German prisoners of war, and arrangements had been made accordingly. Since then, however, diplomatic relations between the United States and Germany have been broken off, and it has become impossible for Japan to carry out its decision. The Japanese authorities will therefore be obliged to abandon the proposal.

SUCCESSFUL DEFENCE IN
COLLISION CASE.

Judgment has been entered for defendants in the Admiralty Court in the collision case between the *Penrhyn Castle* of Liverpool and the Japanese steamship *Fushimi Maru*, in Gravesend Reach of the River Thames. The defence was comparatively pitiful.

TRAFFICKING IN ARMS.

CHARGE AT MIXED COURT,
SHANGHAI.

At the Mixed Court, Shanghai, on the 14th inst., before Mr. Grant Jones, British Assessor, and Magistrate Kuan, Wong Ping-hung and Wong Shiu, natives of Anhui province, were remanded for a week on a charge of trafficking in arms.

Det. Insp. Burnside, in giving evidence of arrest, told of the trap laid by the police to catch the accused. At the end of January information came to the inspector that two men were trying to find purchasers for 20,000 rifles, revolvers, and machine-guns. Certain documents in connection with the matter were inspected, and it was arranged that two detectives should pose as brokers, and as such they entered into negotiations with the accused. An officer from Peking was secured in the person of a Central Office interpreter to take the part of the buyer, and the two accused were induced to hand over a list of the arms they had for sale. The list was handed to the Court.

THE YOKOHAMA EXPLOSION.
ENORMOUS DAMAGE.

Further particulars are now to hand of the great explosion at Yokohama. It appears that altogether seven warehouses belonging to the Yokohama Shohin Soko and about ten dwellings were destroyed by the fire resulting from the explosion. Fortunately nobody was killed, though there were a number of people more or less seriously injured.

The conclusion seems to have been very severely felt throughout the city, which suffered extensively in such minor damage as the breaking of window-panes, etc. The godown in which the explosion occurred was reserved for such inflammable articles as sulphur, lubricating oil, and other oils, etc. Those who are responsible for the management of the warehouse allege that no explosives of any kind were stored in the godown. It is believed that some of the coolies who were engaged in carrying out the sulphur from the warehouse were smoking, contrary to the rules, and some spark from a pipe or cigarette ignited the sulphur or oil in the godown, causing the explosion. The total value of the contents of the warehouses destroyed is put at something like ¥1,600,000.

Amongst the buildings which suffered most severely from the explosion is the Yokohama Chihai Saibansho, which is situated quite close to the scene of the disaster. Almost all the window-panes of the Court, which is a rather old building, were shattered by the concussion and the plaster stripped off the walls. Some of the Court officials were struck by falling plaster and injured. It is reported that some of the prisoners who were in the Court building at the time, pending examination or removal to prison, escaped in the confusion caused by the unexpected occurrence.

About 130 persons were injured.

ST. JOHN AMBULANCE BRIGADE
IN CANTON.

In response to an invitation from H. E. the Civil Governor of Canton, a party of 30 members of the local St. John Ambulance Brigade, consisting of 17 from the Hongkong and 13 from the Y.M.C.A. Divisions, under the command of Mr. E. Jones, the District Officer, and the Officer of the Victoria Division, went up to Canton on the 14th inst. to give a series of demonstrations in First Aid.

On arriving in Canton on the morning of the 15th, the party was met by representatives of H. E. the Civil Governor, who reserved at the Western Hotel for the accommodation of the Officers. After breakfast the party, headed by the Hongkong Y.M.C.A. brass band, marched to the East Parade Ground (where the 6th Kwangtung Athletic Meeting was being held) and were inspected by H. E. the Civil Governor, who expressed his admiration of their smart appearance. At 12 o'clock, they gave a demonstration in First Aid and Stretcher drill. His Excellency, who was evidently keenly interested, commented on the dexterous and skilled manner in which they attended to the "wounded" and manipulated the bandages. In the evening H. E. the Civil Governor gave a dinner at the Government Yamen in honour of the visitors, at which, besides the leading Canton Officials, the following were present:—Mr. E. Ralphs, the Officers of the Victoria Division; Mr. Ho Kwong (who introduced the party to His Excellency) and Mr. M. K. Lo.

On the 16th and 17th the party renewed their demonstrations, which again evoked general admiration at the Canton Christian College, the Canton Government Civil Hospital, the Sai Kwan Public School of Kwangtung Province, and the Pui Ying School. The party's visit was a complete success and their marching and drilling created a most favourable impression in Canton. They feel unspeakably grateful for the extraordinary warm welcome they received, especially from H. E. the Civil Governor, whose kindness and hospitality were unbounded. Messrs. Ho Kwong and Ho Leung kindly bore all the travelling expenses and cost of entertainment of the men.

Lord Curzon, speaking in the House of Lords, remarked:—It is said that the peace of God poseth understanding. Surely the same thing can be said in a different sense of the peace which Germany professes.

HONGKONG VOLUNTEERS.

ORDERS BY LIEUT.-COL. A. CHAPMAN, V.D.

JOINED.

Lt. V. C. Laurium (late Singapore Royal Engineers Volunteers) having joined with effect from 3rd November, 1914, is allotted Corps No. 3039 and posted to Central Section M.G. Co. The undermentioned having joined the Corps are allotted Corps numbers and posted to Engineer Co.:—No. 2067 Spr. G. H. Wilson, No. 2068 Spr. H. Hassan, No. 2070 Pte. G. A. Neves, No. 2071 Spr. A. Abbas, and No. 2072 Spr. N. M. Bux.

RESIGNED.

No. 1914 Gr. J. V. Braga is permitted to resign, dated 1.5.17.
No. 2029 Pte. D. G. Stevon is permitted to resign, dated 1.3.17.

LEAVE.

Lieut. T. G. Weall is granted leave for the duration of the war from 20.2.17.
No. 763 Sergt. F. P. Lentley is granted leave for the duration of the war from 1.3.17.

No. 1220 Gr. N. Croucher is granted leave for the duration of the war from 1.4.17.

No. 1603 Spr. F. J. Dickie is granted leave for the duration of the war from 23.2.17.

No. 2020 Spr. S. F. Chuib is granted leave for the duration of the war from 23.2.17.

No. 1567 Pte. R. W. Lee-Jones is granted leave for the duration of the war from 23.2.17.

No. 1571 Pte. E. J. R. Mitchell is granted leave for the duration of the war from 1.3.17.

No. 1565 Pte. C. H. Davis is granted 12 months' leave from 31.3.17.

No. 1819 Spr. F. Pereira is granted 1 month's leave from 1.2.17.

No. 1521 Pte. A. A. Claxton is granted 1½ months' leave from 24.2.17.

SCOTS COMPANY.

Lieut. R. O. Hutchison will command the Scots Company until further orders.

GUARDS.

Until further orders, guards will parade at 5.45 p.m.

SIGNALLING SECTION.

In the qualifying test for Signallers, held on February 23rd and 24th, by the Command Signalling Officers, the undermentioned members qualified:—1st Class—Lec. Cpl. A. A. de Luz and Pte. W. K. Wilkinson. 2nd Class—Ptes. C. A. de Ribeiro and A. A. Abbas.

CENTRAL SECTION M.G. CO.

No. 1566 Pte. J. F. Taggart ceases to be attached to the Mounted Section from this date.

PARADES.

Thursday, 1st March:—
5.15 p.m. Mounted Section at Jockey Club Stables.

5.30 p.m. Artillery Battery at Belcher's Battery.

8 to 10.30 p.m. E. L. Class No. 1 at Belcher's Battery.

8 to 10.30 p.m. E. L. Class No. 3 at Kowloon West Battery.

Friday, 2nd March:—
7.30 a.m. Belcher's 6th Section at Belcher's Battery.

5.15 p.m. Recruits of all units at Headquarters, C.S.M. Mitchell and Cpl. Grimes will attend.

5.30 p.m. Signalling Section "A" and "B" classes at Wellington Barracks.

5.30 p.m. Artillery Battery at Belcher's Battery.

8 to 10.30 p.m. E. L. Class No. 2 at Belcher's Battery.

8.—DETAIL.
On duty 4th March—Right Sec. M.G. Co.

On duty 5th March—Scouts Company.

On duty 6th March—Scouts Company.

On duty 7th March—Artillery Battery.

On duty 8th March—Civil Service Co.

On duty 9th March—Centre Sec. M.G. Co.

On duty 10th March—Belcher's 6th Sec. Orderly Officer from 4th to 10th March—Lieut. Wright.

A. F. CHURCHILL, Capt.,
Adjutant, H.K.V.C.
Hongkong, 23rd February, 1917.

HONGKONG RESERVES.

ORDERS BY MAJOR WAKEMAN, O.C., H.K.V.C.

DETAIL.

On duty from the morning of Sunday, 25th February, to the morning of Sunday, 4th March—"B" Coy. H.K.V.C. Parade at 5.30 p.m. until further notice.

Orderly Officer—Lieut. G. C. Moxon.
Next for duty—H.K.V.C.

Parades for the week ending March 3rd, 1917, nil.

STRENGTH.

Pte. G. Hogg having joined is allotted Corps No. 645 and posted to Coy. "A", Platoon No. 1, Section 3.

(Sgd.) G. K. H. Burton, Capt.,
Adjutant, H.K.V.C.
Hongkong, 23rd February, 1917.

HONGKONG POLICE RESERVE.

Members of the Ambulance Platoon will report for duty at the Race Course on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, February 26th to 28th, from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. daily.

POLICE SCHOOL.
Members of Class I. (Inspector Gerald), Class II. (Inspector Gordon), and Class III. (Inspector Grant) are warned that they will undergo written examination on Tuesday, March 6th.

ROUTE MARCH.
All Ranks (except Recruits) of Nos. 3 and 4 Companies, Ambulance Platoon, and Buglers and Drummers will parade at Central Station at 5.30 p.m. sharp on Friday, March 2nd. Uniform, with helmets and rifles.

STRENGTH.
P.C. 68 Tang Ping Woon is invalided out.
(Sgd.) F. C. Jenkins,
D.S.P. (R.),
February 23rd, 1917.

HONGKONG MAGISTRACY.

ARMS.

A Chinese who had just arrived in the Colony from America by the *Venezuela* was charged before Mr. Wood with being in possession of a revolver and 48 rounds of ammunition.

Mr. Davidson appeared to defend, and the man was remanded until to-day.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

A Chinese was charged before Mr. Melbourn with being in unlawful possession of an alarm clock. The defendant caused some amusement by announcing that he purchased the clock for \$1 in Possession Street. As this story conflicted with others defendant had told in connection with his possession of the timepiece the Magistrate imposed a fine of \$10, or, in default, 14 days' hard labour.

HARBOUR THIEVES.

In Wanchai Bay on Thursday, Sergt. Bond had his suspicions aroused by the fact that a cinder boat was leaving a Japanese coal steamer with about 144 cwt. of coal on board. He held up the cinder boat, interviewed the officers on board the Japanese boat, and discovered that the coal had been stolen. The seven men on board the cinder boat were arrested, and Mr. Wood fined them \$5 each.

ABSENT SHIP'S OFFICER.

When the case as called in which a ship's officer named Cooper is charged with being drunk and disorderly Sergt. McCulloch said the defendant was not present. The case had been remanded for a month and he now heard that Cooper was on a new ship. Mr. Goldring was defending and there was a bail of \$25, which had been renewed week by week by Mr. Hill, of the C.P.R. The Magistrate decided to remand the case for another week; the bail to be forfeited.

SCHOOL OF YOUNG THIEVES

Five Chinese boys, four of whom were so small that their heads only just appeared above the dock rail, were charged before Mr. Wood with numerous petty thefts from a shop in Praya East, including a silver bangle and a pair of shoes.

Inspector Sim said that the defendants were a school of young shop thieves.

Three of the boys were ordered to be detained in gaol for forty-eight hours and also to receive ten strokes with the birch, and the other two were sentenced to six weeks' imprisonment, they being older boys, and were looked upon as the ringleaders.

ALLEGED STABBING BY A BOATSWAIN.

Further evidence was heard, yesterday, by Mr. Melbourn in the charge against Wung Kai, boatswain on board the *s.s. Empress of Russia*, of stabbing and seriously injuring two seamen on board that steamer while she was in the harbour on the 27th December.

Defendant is alleged to have lost his temper in connection with a demand by the crew for money due to them as wages, and to have rushed among the crew stabbing indiscriminately with a knife.

At the close of the evidence, yesterday, Mr. Melbourn committed the defendant for trial.

Mr. G. B. Haywood, solicitor, appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. E. Davidson, solicitor, for the defendant.

A SOLICITOR AND AN ASSAULT.

Mr. F. X. D'Almada prosecuted in a case in which a dustman was charged with assaulting a small Chinese boy, who is related to Mr. D'Almada's cook. Mr. D'Almada told the Magistrate that he was prepared to go into the witness-box to give evidence. He saw the boy after he had been beaten by the dustman in Queen's Road and he had three strokes across his back. When he (Mr. D'Almada) questioned the defendant about the matter he exclaimed:—"I not only had a right to assault him, but I also had a right to arrest him."

In the witness-box Mr. D'Almada said that at 7.15 a.m. on the 20th he was told that the boy had been assaulted by the foreman of the dustcart. Witness did not see the assault, but he saw the strokes on the boy's back, and also interviewed the defendant. The latter was most impudent.

Defendant said the boy scattered ashes all over the roadway, and that when he threatened to take him to the police station he cried. Defendant denied that he struck the boy, he only remonstrated with him. This story was corroborated by a dustcart foki.

Mr. Melbourn did not believe the story of the foki, and asked him:—"Have you anything to say why I should not find you for not telling the truth?"

The foki said that he had told the truth.

Defendant was fined \$2 with the alternative of five days' imprisonment, and was also cautioned. The foki received a similar sentence for not telling the truth.

(Continued at foot of next column.)

THE SHIPPING OF OPIUM.

SHIP-OWNERS' LIABILITY.

HONGKONG FIRM FINED \$5,000.

Yesterday afternoon, before Mr. Wood, the hearing was resumed of the case in which a Portuguese, master of the *s.s. Sui Ka*, was charged (1) with using his ship for the importation of 1,400 taels of prepared opium; (2) unlawfully importing opium; and (3) aiding and abetting in the importation.

The Yu Hing Kee Lok Chung Sam and Li Tin Po, the Chung Wo S.S. Company, of 133, Connaught Road, Central, were also charged as owners with allowing the ship to carry 1,880 taels of prepared opium.

Mr. R. O. Hutchison, Superintendent of Imports and Exports, prosecuted, and Mr. F. G. Jenkin (instructed by Mr. Grist, solicitor) appeared for the defence.

It was intimated that the charge against the master had been dropped by the prosecution as they had no further evidence to offer than that tendered by three Indian watchmen on the ship. They could not add anything to the evidence given by the first watchman, already examined, and that was not considered sufficient to justify conviction.

Mr. Jenkin, in his address to the Court, said that the owners of a ship being liable whenever the ship was used in the importation of opium, the owners here could offer no defence. It was the case that opium did come into the Colony, and he believed, in fairly large quantity, but this was only the second occasion on which owners had been brought into that Court in connection with the unlawful use of their ships in carrying opium. He could not imagine his Worship ever having a case less convincing against the owners than this was.

They had complied with the law in having the requisite number of watchmen to see that nothing illegal was unloaded, but the conduct of the latter suggested that they were not so much concerned with their duty as with making certain that they got their share of the proceeds of the sale of the opium if they allowed it to go ashore. He submitted that a nominal penalty would be sufficient in this case, chiefly to bring to the notice of the public, and particularly the owners of ships, that an Ordinance exists which provides for their punishment, even although they are innocent. There were a large number of respectable ship-owners in this Colony who would be surprised to read in the Press for the first time that they might be brought up at that Court and convicted of shipping opium of the existence of which they were totally ignorant. If in a case of that kind—which has so prominently been a heavy penalty was imposed the Magistrate would not be in a position, when he got a case in which there was knowledge and implication, to differentiate properly in the matter of punishment. A nominal fine would, therefore, not only meet the merits of the case, but leave the Magistrate free for future discrimination.

Mr. Wood said the shipment of opium was a serious offence, and its seriousness required to be reflected in the punishment inflicted. The ship-owners would be fined \$5,000.

The Captain was formally discharged.

COOL THEFT.

Two men were charged before Mr. Wood with being concerned in the theft of a quantity of hides, to the value of \$300. A number of hides were stored in a small store at 33, Second Street, and on Thursday night a *foki* of the store saw seven or eight coolies removing the hides. The *foki* ran to the shop and asked if the hides had been sold. He was told that this was not so, and at once returned to the store, only to find that all the hides had been removed. The matter was reported to the West Point police station, and a *lukong* traced the hides to a house in Lower Lascar Row, and arrested two men who were in the house.

One of the men was sentenced to six months' hard labour, but the other, who was defended by Mr. Crew, was remanded.

AN UNSTAMPED RECEIPT.

J. M. Franco, of Kowloon, was summoned before Mr. Melbourn for unlawfully executing a receipt for the sum of \$60 on December 8th, 1916, on unstamped material.

The defendant admitted the charge, but stated that at the time the receipt was given he had no stamp in the house. He alleged that he gave the payer of the money, a Mrs. Julian, five cents with which to purchase a stamp to be affixed to the receipt, and that was all he knew about it. He was ill at the time.

Post Office Inspector Watt stated that he had seen Mrs. Julian, and she stated that she went to defendant's house with the object of persuading him to stamp the receipt, but he refused to do so.

Defendant denied this.

Mr. Melbourn remanded the defendant, but the charge was a serious one, and made him liable to a fine of \$100. He would, however, only be fined \$5, but must be careful not to repeat the offence.

COMPANY MEETING.

THE CHINA PROVIDENT, LOAN AND MORTGAGE CO., LTD.

The 20th ordinary annual meeting of the above was held at the offices of Messrs. Shewan, Tomes & Co., the general managers, yesterday. Mr. R. Shewan presided, and those also present were: Messrs. H. P. White, S. H. Dodwell, and U. Yiu On (Directors), and Messrs. A. O. Lang, R. Hancock, R. Henderson, R. A. Ferguson, C. Klinek, J. M. Gordon, J. Toppin, A. P. Sany, M. A. Figueiredo, W. E. Ford, and Tong Lai Chuen, with the Secretary, Mr. J. A. Young.

The Secretary having read the notice convening the meeting,

The Chairman said—Gentlemen, I presume you will follow the usual course and take the report and accounts as read. I have no doubt you have found them quite satisfactory, as, in addition to paying our usual dividend of seven per cent., we are able to recommend an addition of \$20,000 to Reserve Fund, as against \$5,000 last year. We are also able to increase the Reserve Fund by \$20,000 from the appreciation in value of our investment in Green Island Cement Co.'s shares, which will now stand in the books at \$10 per share, and so bring up the total amount at credit of Reserve Fund to \$145,000. As regards the past year's business, we did not handle quite as much cargo in our godowns as we did in 1915, but our rent account was better, and we were also able to put more money out in loans and mortgages. As for the present year, it has begun well and prospects seem favourable for our business. There is nothing in the accounts that require explanation, but I may say, with regard to our loans, that there is none of them that gives us any anxiety. With these remarks I now beg to propose that the report and accounts as presented to this meeting be adopted and passed, and, when that is seconded, I shall be pleased to reply to any remarks from shareholders.

Mr. White seconded, and, there being no questions, the proposition was put to the meeting and unanimously carried.

On the proposition of Mr. Ferguson, seconded by Mr. Klinek, Messrs. S. H. Dodwell, H. P. White and U. Yiu On were re-elected to the Consulting Committee.

Mr. Gordon proposed, and Mr. Hancock seconded, the re-appointment of Messrs. F. Maitland and H. Percy Smith as auditors, at a remuneration of \$200 each.

The Chairman then said—Gentlemen, we have been asked to make a donation to the Hongkong War Charities Fund. Whatever we give will be small indeed compared with the sacrifices made by others, so I have no hesitation in putting the proposal before you. I therefore move "That this Company give the sum of two thousand five hundred dollars to the Hongkong War Charities Fund," and have no doubt this motion will be duly seconded.

Mr. Hancock, in seconding, said—I am sure all shareholders will heartily agree with the proposition.

The resolution was then put to the meeting and unanimously carried.

This was all the business, and the Chairman announced that dividend warrants were ready, and could be had on application.

COMPANY REPORTS.

HONGKONG TRAMWAY CO., LTD.

Gross Profit (after charging £ s. d.
Depreciation, etc.) 44,669.17.11
Less: Depreciation In-
terest 7,368.6.8
Interim Dividend of
7 per cent. 3,687.10.0 13,655.16.8

Brought forward from 1915 31,514.1.3
6,320.17.4

Balance £37,834.18.7

The Directors now recommend the payment of a final Dividend at the rate 23 per cent per annum, amounting to £18,687.10s. (to be payable in April next at Exchange of 2s/4d—48 cents per share) and the writing down of the cost of the "Tramway Undertaking" by £28,441.13s. 8d. leaving to be carried forward £19,705.14s. 11d.

HONGKONG WHARF.

At the annual meeting of the Shanghai and Hongkong Wharf Co., Ltd., to be held on March 10th, the directors will recommend the payment of a dividend of 10s. 6d. per share for the year 1916, and the transfer of £10,000 to repairs account.

SPORT.

GOLF.

LADIES' GOLF—CAPTAIN'S CUPS.

A competition has been arranged at Happy Valley for ladies of A. and B. Grades under the following conditions:—Medal play, 18 holes. One card only to be taken out from the 2nd Monday to following Friday of each month. Entrance fee 50 cents. Dates for play in March 12th to 18th. A small trophy will be presented to monthly winners. The monthly winners of each grade will compete in match play in March, 1918 for the Cups.

HOCKEY.

88th COY. R.G.A. v. 87th COY. R.G.A.

This match for the R.A. Hockey Cup took place at Happy Valley yesterday. The visitors were defeated heavily, thanks mainly to a remarkable performance by Desborough, the 88th's centre forward, who scored no fewer than six goals for his side. The first was a particularly brilliant individual effort which started somewhere in the centre of the field, Desborough beating several opponents on his way to the goal. The second goal was also worthy of mention, being picked up very neatly from a high pass from Mancini. Captain Goldney registered one for the 87th Coy. before the interval, when the scores read 3-1.

Desborough was again irresistible in the second half, and when the final whistle blew had registered three more goals, the 88th Coy. thus winning by six goals to one. For the first score of the 87th Coy. a lot of credit was due to Watson, who played a fine game at centre half, and made the efforts of the opposing forwards ineffectual. As a result of this victory the 88th Coy. become holders of the Royal Artillery Hockey Cup for this season.

CRICKET.

CIVIL SERVICE v. H.M.S. "TAMAR."

The following will represent the Civil Service: at home, today at 2 p.m.:—R. E. O. Bird (Capt.), E. W. Hamilton, C. J. Tootell, E. W. Dawson, W. H. Edmunds, C. F. Mason, R. C. Wiltchell, D. U. Goodall, S. E. Alderman, C. Sara, P. T. Lamble, Umpire, D. H. Woolley; Scorer, W. Fincher.

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL.

The match to-day between the Club and K.S.L.I. is, as far as the Club is concerned, a semi-final for the Hongkong League. The Shrophires at one time held a very strong position in this league, and it seemed fairly certain that they would become champions. Their prospects, however, were finally destroyed when they lost to the R.G.A. last week.

The Royal Engineers are now waiting at the top of the league to see if they can be challenged for premier honours or not. The only team that can challenge them is the Club. If the latter can manage a win to-day—a draw will not be sufficient—they play the Engineers for premier honours, but if not, the Sappers win the league, a task they have never yet accomplished, although at one time or another they have won both the shield and the U.S. League.

This is the only match taking place at the Valley to-day, and, in view of the creditable happenings last week, it is to be hoped that both players and spectators will manage to control their tempers, and so help to prevent football being looked upon as a "sport" only indulged in and supported by hooligans and corner-boys.

TO-DAY'S MATCHES.

H.K.F.C. v. K.S.L.I.—Club Ground. Kick-off, 4 p.m. Referee, Mr. Davies.

TEAMS.

H.K.F.C.—Goldenberg; Black and Dickie; Rodger, Stewart and Ralston; Robinson; Walker, Stalker, McTavish, and Climo.

K.S.L.I.—Pritchards; Clayton and Wall; Morris, Williams, and Henn; Braddock, Machin, Pritchards, Jones, and Penlow.

UNITED SERVICES LEAGUE.

A meeting of the Emergency Committee of the above league was held in Victoria Barracks, yesterday evening, the business being to arrange dates for matches between the R.G.A., R.E. and K.S.L.I., who have each obtained ten points, the last-named team, owing to inability to raise an eleven. The meeting was held in accordance with Rule 10, which states:—"In the event of two or more teams being equal in points at the top of the league table, the Emergency Committee shall arrange a match or matches to decide ultimate positions." The R.G.A. obtained a bye. It was arranged that the R.E. and K.S.L.I. should meet on the Club Ground on March 7th, at 5 p.m., the winners to play the R.G.A. on Saturday, March 17th, also at 5 p.m., on the Club Ground. In the event of a draw the first match will be replayed on Saturday, March 10th.

HONGKONG LEAGUE.

Division II. Table to Date.

Club	P.	W.	L.	D.	F.A.	P.
"D" Co. R.G.A.	10	3	1	6	21	5.18
"A" Co. R.E.	6	1	1	23	2	13
Black and Diplo.	2	2	1	16	9	13
S. China A.S.	2	2	1	11	6	11
88th Co. R.G.A.	2	2	2	1	10	10
Louisiana	2	2	2	2	8	12
88th Co. R.G.A.	2	2	2	4	11	7
R.E. Res.	10	2	2	6	10	31
Navy Res.	2	2	6	1	10	21
Kowloon	10	2	7	1	6	29
87th Co. R.G.A.	10	0	7	3	2	10

INTIMATIONS

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.
ESTABLISHED 1850. TELEPHONE 1741.



NEW GOODS

FOR THE

RACES

LARGE SELECTIONS

AT

MODERATE PRICES.

GENTLEMEN'S LONDON MADE SHIRTS

WHITE WOOL TAFFETA, LONG CLOTH, ZEPHYR,

AERTEX CELLULAR AND COTELLA SHIRTS.

IN ALL SIZES \$2.75 TO \$5.75 EACH.

IRISH LINEN COLLARS

ALL SHAPES \$4.50 PER DOZEN.

THE LATEST STYLES IN

HATS, TIES, SOCKS, ETC., ETC.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

A.V.C. FINEST OLD LIQUEUR BRANDY.

GUARANTEED 30 YEARS OLD.

V. D. CLARETS. V. D. SAUTERNES.

V. D. BURGUNDIES.

Stocked by HONGKONG HOTEL.

Obtainable at LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

A. & B. MACKAY'S LIQUEUR WHISKY.

THE ORIGINAL LIQUEUR WHISKY.

PRICE \$2400 PER CASE DUTY PAID.

Has a fine mild flavour and a refreshing clean taste.

Obtainable at all Local Stores.

and at LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

Wm. Powell Ltd
TELEPHONE 346

SMART DAY

AND

EVENING GOWNS

AT

SPECIAL PRICES THIS WEEK

TO CLEAR

BEFORE STOCKTAKING.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

HOSIERY COTTAGE INDUSTRIES.

WANTED—A Sole Agent for the sale of Auto-Knitters suitable for the above industries. Full particulars can be obtained from COX, 13 Nanking Road, Shanghai. [330]

ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

CAPTAIN'S CUP, 1916.

WILL those Members who qualified during last year kindly send by letter their names to the Hon. Secretary. [335]

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the ORDINARY YEARLY MEETING of the SHAREHOLDERS in this Corporation will be held at the City Hall, Hongkong, TO-DAY (SATURDAY), 24th day of Feb., 1917, at Noon, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Court of Directors together with a statement of Accounts for the year ending the 31st December, 1916.

The REGISTER of SHARES of the Corporation will be CLOSED from MONDAY the 12th February, 1917, to SATURDAY the 24th February, 1917 (both days inclusive), during which period no Transfer of Shares can be Registered. By Order of the Court of Directors, N. J. STARR, Chief Manager. Hongkong, 6th February, 1917. [251]

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT COMPANY, LIMITED, AND REDUCED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from THURSDAY 1st March, to SATURDAY 31st March, 1917, both days inclusive.

The return of Capital of \$2.50 per Share will be paid to Shareholders on and after the 15th March, 1917, on presentation of Share Certificates for endorsement.

By Order of the BOARD OF DIRECTORS. Hongkong, 22nd February, 1917. [329]

HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

RACE MEETING, 1917.

MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, AND SATURDAY (OFF-DAY). FEBRUARY 20TH, 27TH, 28TH AND 3RD MARCH.

TICKETS of ADMISSION to the GRAND STAND AND ENCLOSURE may be obtained from Messrs. KELLY & WALES, Ltd., or at the Gate. Price 5/0 for the Meeting (including the Off-Day), or 4/0 per day. Tickets for the Off-Day, 3/0. No one admitted without a Ticket, to be shown to the Ticket Inspector at the Gate. T. F. HOUGH, Clerk of the Course. Hongkong, 23rd February, 1917. [330]

HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

THE STEWARDS request the pleasure of the presence of the LADIES at the GRAND STAND and the ENCLOSURE during the Races. A Stand and Enclosure will be reserved for Members and Members' Wives and Families. Tickets for which are being sent out with the Members' Tickets. All Tickets must be produced to gain admission.

Special accommodation will be reserved as in recent years for Chinese Ladies and their Female attendants in the Stand erected on the plot of ground next to the Lusitania Club Stand.

T. F. HOUGH, Clerk of the Course, Hongkong, 23rd February, 1917. [331]

NOTICE.

PROPOS of the above, Members are hereby notified that although Membership of the JOCKEY CLUB entitles them to free admission to the Enclosure and Stands during the Race Meeting an opportunity is given to those to make a special contribution to the War Charities by also purchasing an admission Ticket at the Gate. A Book will be in care of the Gate Keeper in which Members are asked to record any such purchases.

T. F. HOUGH, Clerk of the Course, Hongkong, 23rd February, 1917. [332]

HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

PASSES for Servants will be issued on SATURDAY, the 24th instant. No Servants will be allowed inside the ENCLOSURE of the Race Course during the Race Days WITHOUT TICKETS, which can be had on application to the Understated. These Tickets are only available for Servants while in attendance on their employers or when on duty at the various Stands. Any Chinese found loitering about with Servants' passes in their possession will forfeit them, and the holders thereof will be removed from the Enclosure.

T. F. HOUGH, Clerk of the Course, Hongkong, 23rd February, 1917. [333]

HONGKONG POLICE (RESERVE).

SERVICE RIFLE CHAMPIONSHIP MEETING.

H.E. THE GOVERNOR'S CUP.

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 8TH, 1917.

Open to any person in the Colony. Entrance Fee 5/0.

(to be used in connection with printing expenses).

Service Rifles. Open Rifle. 100 yds. Delivered. 200 yds. Delivered. 300 yds. Delivered. 500 yds. Delivered. 600 yds. Delivered. 800 yds. Delivered. 1000 yds. Delivered.

Printed conditions may be obtained on written application to Inspector H. A. LAMBERT, Headquarters Club, H.K.P.R.

HOUSES TO LET.

TO LET—FURNISHED.

NO. 8, GOUGH HILL (No. 102, THE PEAK), for 3 or 4 months, from 1st June, 1917. Apply—LINSTEAD & DAVIS. [246]

TO LET—FURNISHED.

STRAWBERRY HILL, THE PEAK. Six Rooms, Garden and Tennis Court. Apply to—H. W. L., 1, Des Voeux Road Central. [188]

TO LET—IMMEDIATELY.

LARGE OFFICE, Centrally Situated in Queen's Road, fully partitioned and fitted with electric light, telephone and sub. exchange. Apply—"X. Y. Z." Office. [322]

TO LET.

NO. 46, ELGIN STREET, 6 Room House. From 1st April. Apply to—DR. M. E. ASGER, New Post Office Building. [320]

TO LET.

2 NEW HOUSES now Building in Conduit Road. Ready for occupation on 1st February, 1917. For rent and other particulars apply to—H. M. H. NEMAZEE, 1 Des Voeux Road. [105]

TO LET.

NO. 42, ELGIN STREET. Apply to—PERCY SMITH, SETH & FLEMING. [102]

TO LET—AT THE PEAK.

FURNISHED, 3, Stewart Terrace. Apply—H. E. POLLOCK, Princes Buildings. [97]

TO LET.

FLAT in "EWO MESS," No. 8, THE PEAK. Apply, Property Office, JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Ltd. [90]

TO LET.

OFFICES on 1st Floor, No. 3, Queen's Road Central, at present in the occupation of The China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd. Apply to—CHINA FIRE INSURANCE Co., Ltd. [72]

TO LET.

GODOWN in Duddell Street. Light and airy Offices overlooking Statue Square. Moderate rent. For rent and other particulars apply to—"H." Care of "Daily Press" Office. [68]

TO LET.

OFFICES, 2nd Floor, St. George's Buildings. Apply to—SHEWAN, TOMES & Co. [69]

TO LET.

FOUR-ROOMED HOUSES in Gordon Terrace and Salisbury Avenue, Kowloon. A FLAT in Humphreys Buildings, Kowloon. Apply to—HUMPHREYS ESTATE & FINANCE Co., Ltd., Alexandra Buildings. [231]

TO LET OR FOR SALE.

KOWLOON MARINE LOT 48 with wharf area 89,000 sq. ft., suitable for Coal Storage or erection of Godowns. Apply to—HUMPHREYS ESTATE & FINANCE Co., Ltd., Alexandra Buildings. [231]

TO LET.

OFFICES at 2, Connaught Road Central. OFFICES in King's and York Buildings. HOUSES in Clifton Gardens, Conduit Road. HOUSES in Broadwood, and Moreton Terrace. HOUSES on Shamoan, Canton. Apply to—THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT AND AGENCY Co., Ltd. [231]

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25 YEARS IN WOOD.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.

WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS.

TELEPHONE 411.

[12]

MARRIAGES.

SAYER—DREW—At Wimbledon, on January 10th, GEORGE R. SAYER, Hongkong Civil Service and Rifle Brigade, to WINNIE DREW.

WOOD—GIRLING—At St. John's Cathedral, Hongkong, on February 20th, by the Bishop of Victoria, assisted by the Rev. Copley Moyle, ERNEST MARSHALL, son of JOSEPH WOOD, Esq., of Halifax, Yorkshire, to CHRISTINA, younger daughter of JOHN GIRLING, Esq., of River Bank, Shepperton, and formerly of Poochow, China. [344]

DEATHS.

BREULL—At St. Anthony's Hospital, on January 12th, LUCY ALICE, widow of SAMUEL BREULL, late of Shanghai and Liverpool, aged 74.

VIDA—At the Victoria Nursing Home, Shanghai, on February 17th, EVA MARGARET, wife of FRANK E. VIDA, aged 41, of pneumonia.

HONGKONG OFFICE: 101, Des Voeux Road, C. LONDON OFFICE: 151, FLEET STREET, E.C.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG 24th FEBRUARY, 1917.

CHINESE LAWS AND LAWYERS

A few days ago the Chief Justice of this Colony paid a well-deserved tribute to a young Chinese barrister, who ably defended a man indicted for murder. The incident is interesting as furnishing another proof of the advance of the younger generation of Chinese in Western studies. The late Sir Kai Ho-kai, of Hongkong, was one of the pioneers in the mastery of English law, and his example has been followed by many others. In a number of cases young Chinese who have studied law in Europe or America have entered the stormy arena of politics. The mistake which they have usually made has been to show an eagerness to frame laws before becoming acquainted with practical experience with the working of the legal machine. It is not enough to have studied from books; it is essential to practice. In the medical profession a student can qualify as a doctor by completing a five years' course of study at a University, but most of us prefer that our medical

adviser shall have had further experience. We still believe in the old English proverb that "An ounce of practice is worth a ton of theory." Similarly, in law-making some practical experience in the working of law is desirable. In Great Britain, many of the most successful statesmen have been lawyers. Mr. ASQUITH, Sir JOHN SIMON, Sir EDWARD CLARK, Sir EDWARD CARSON and many others had famous and lucrative practices at the bar, which they gave up in order to devote themselves to the science of law-making. It will be remembered, too, that the present Prime Minister, Mr. LLOYD GEORGE, is a solicitor.

It is noticeable that many young Chinese who have been educated in Europe or America return to their native land very much out of sympathy with their own people. They are inclined to be hyper-critical. With the enthusiasm of youth they are impatient for reform, and unwilling to make haste slowly. Whatever profession they study, they read a great deal about the French Revolution and often absorb literature on the subject of the American Constitution. They are apt to overlook the fact that the French Revolution was not, in practice, what its sponsors thought it would be when they spun their theories, and that the American Constitution differs somewhat from the ideals of its founders.

The reason why the Chinese take so kindly to literary, rather than to experimental, studies can be accounted for by the law of heredity. For thousands of years the clever men of China have steeped themselves in the classics of the country and have trained their memories to a remarkable degree. Very much the same thing is seen in other Oriental countries. In India, especially, the ambitious young men have shown a great partiality for law and literature. Nobody doubts that up to a certain point this is desirable, but the great problem which faces mankind is the development of the natural resources of the world.

In China, particularly, the prosperity of the people depends upon the improvement of transport facilities and the opening up of the mines. These are two of the most urgent matters before the country. To solve these problems properly, practical rather than academic minds are needed. We do not know if the somewhat startling experiment in the direction of a "Business Government" in Great Britain will prove a success, but if it should and there is every reason to be sanguine on the point—it will furnish an object-lesson for the world. China certainly needs men able and willing to do things. It has been estimated, for example, that at least 80% of the inhabitants of the country are directly dependent upon agriculture for a livelihood, yet the methods employed in that industry to-day are, with but few exceptions, those of the centuries gone by.

We should like to see some definite efforts towards improvement, but that will not come until there are enough roads and railways in the country to enable the people to travel about easily and see for themselves the advantages of modern methods. It is certain that as China develops industrially new laws and new legal methods will be needed, and if they are to be administered properly, men with modern ideas will be essential. At this moment there is a Law Commission sitting under the chairmanship of Dr. WANG CAI-UNG-HUI, who has expressed the opinion that, although six years have elapsed since the Republic was established, not a single enactment has reached perfection. In the Provisional Criminal Code there are many defective points and short-comings, while no definite authorities appear to exist in regard to the application of either the civil or commercial laws. These drawbacks, Dr. WANG considers, make it most difficult for the courts of justice to arrive at a right decision in many cases. He proposes a speedy revision or compilation of the criminal, civil and commercial laws by the Commission, and that this, after examination and sanction by Parliament, should be promptly promulgated and enforced. The old system of appointing magistrates in the various districts of China seems to have broken down. It remains to be seen whether the lawyers of China will find employment under the Government of the country or will be limited to the more restricted sphere of the Treaty ports.

The Members of the St. John Ambulance Brigade in Hongkong have vaccinated 23,500 persons in the Colony during the last five weeks.

Shareholders are reminded that the ordinary annual meeting of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation takes place at noon to-day at the City Hall.

Mr. J. M. Durrak, who has been American Postal Agent in Shanghai since May, 1904, has been presented by the Chinese staff with a handsome inscribed silver loving cup.

A Chinese has been received into the Government Civil Hospital suffering from severe injuries to the face and body, sustained by falling from the roof of the Tramway Depot, where he was at work as a bricklayer.

A Chinese residing at Pottinger Street has reported to the police that between one and six o'clock yesterday morning someone entered his flat by getting up to the verandah from the roof and stole clothing and jewellery of the value of \$320.

The Bishop of Victoria will preach on board the Tamar at 10 a.m. to-morrow (Sunday) and afterwards at the morning service at St. Andrew's, Kowloon. In the evening he will preach the first of a course of sermons in the Cathedral, the service commencing at 6 p.m.

The marriage of Miss Eileen Victoria Showler, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. Y. Showler, of Yokohama, to Mr. Alan Sydney Acton Bishop, of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co.'s Kobe office, son of the late Captain and Mrs. E. Prior Bishop, of Yokohama, was solemnized in Christ Church, Yokohama, on February 10th.

The first of a series of receptions was held at Government House last evening when a large number attended. An interesting concert programme had been arranged for the reception. Mrs. Balaen rendered a violin solo, songs were given by Mrs. Galloway, Mr. H. I. Jones and Mr. Muriel, while Miss L. White, Mrs. Goldsmith and Miss Phoebe May were responsible for a delightfully rendered trio, they being accompanied on violins by Mrs. Aubrey, Mrs. Robertson, Mrs. Murray Scott and Miss Dione May. Mr. Denman Fuller and Mr. Norman Peterkin also entertained with a phantasia, and an air and variations for two pianos.

CHARTERED BANK AND THE WAR LOAN.

The local office of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China in its receipt of cable advice from the London Office that the Bank, including constituents and the staff, have subscribed to the War Loan 24,985,000, of which £2,370,000 is new money.

THE BANDMAN OPERA CO.

The New Bandman Opera Co. will be here shortly with a repertoire of all the latest London successes. The Company consists of 24 artists and includes several old favourites. Miss Marjorie Manners, who scored such a great success last year with her singing, and Mr. Compton Countie, who made such a hit in "Grumpy," are both with the Company and will be cordially welcomed back. Then there are the three Misses Boslyn, Miss May, Miss Fischer, Miss Sinclair and the Betwell Sisters, also Miss Beatrice Rowe, who was so successful in the revival of "The Country Girl" last year, and Mr. Leyland Hodgson, another popular member. Of the new "recruits" we have Miss Cathleen Doyle, Miss Addie Leigh, Mr. Fred Winn and others, including a special beauty chorus. The orchestra is under the direction of Mr. Gordon Stamford. Calcutta papers speak very highly of this Company, which should have a very successful season in Hongkong.

CLARKE'S CIRCUS.

Clarke's Circus is expected to arrive in Hongkong from Manila, on its first visit to the East, on about the 10th of next month. The company is entirely composed of Europeans.

CORRESPONDENCE. LIGHT DUES.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

SIR,—Your correspondent signing himself "A Mariner" has evidently only looked upon one side of this matter. Ocean tonnage may be scarce and, in consequence, with high freights ruling owners may be reaping a harvest. This does not apply to River tonnage, which is in excess of requirements. With the present high prices for coal and stores, river steamers can hardly make both ends meet, and, in proof of this assertion, one has only to turn to the last few years' balance sheets of some of the River-boat Companies. The Editor's foot-note is appropriate. Enclosing my card.

I am, sir, Yours faithfully, "AN ANCIENT MARINER."

HONGKONG AND SOUTH CHINA WAR SAVINGS ASSOCIATION.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

SIR,—It will interest intending subscribers to this Association to learn that arrangements have now been completed whereby any subscriber who finds that he is about to leave the East, or for other good reason feels that he is in want of the money invested, may apply to us for its return, when his investment will be taken over and his money returned to him, as he elects, either in sterling, Straits Dollars, or Hongkong Currency at the rate of exchange ruling at the time, together with all accrued interest thereon.

This arrangement will, it is hoped, bring forward many new subscribers. It is the patriotic duty of everyone to lend as much money as he can afford to His Majesty's Government to assist the prosecution of the War, and everyone can afford at least \$5 a month. Although this is a small sum, in the aggregate the subscriptions per month will be of great assistance.

Arrangements are also being made to secure a large amount of Straits War Loan at 6 per cent, so that investors may now reap the benefit of a high rate of interest which might not be otherwise obtainable.

We are endeavouring to open up Branches of this Association in various parts of China and elsewhere.

Anyone who desires any information should apply to the undersigned, who are at all times most willing to give every assistance.

We are, sir, yours faithfully, THE UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF CANTON, Ltd. (Hon. Secretaries).

Hongkong, February 21st, 1917.

THE OBSERVANCE OF LENT.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

SIR,—I think your correspondent writing in your paper of the 21st on the above subject refers to the picture known as "Despised and Rejected of Men." It was certainly a wonderful picture, full of sad meaning. It spoke of a divided fellowship of the one Church. It pointed to thousands and thousands of thoughtless people hugging their petty divisions. It seemed to show the Church up like a soul wandering in a strange land. The Churches were empty on Sunday. The Blessed Sacrament was only an occasional luxury, and as to the keeping of Saints' Days, or the strict observance of Lent, such things were practiced only by a very small number of people. Now that the Great European War is raging, now that men have found their souls on the battlefield, and priests been taught the wonderful consolation of the Blessed Sacrament to the dying patriot, now that thousands have been widowed, and thousands rendered childless, now that the story of the Cross, the wonderful story of self-sacrifice, is shining out all over the world, the Church has undoubtedly come back to her own and, consequently, to the value of prayer and worship, and the duty of leading each other along and the privileges of observing all Holy Days and seasons such as Lent.

And it is for us not to go back, but to go forward, and, more important still, the children must be taught the faith of the Church.

I sincerely hope all of us who are proud to name ourselves as members of the Holy Catholic Church are going to very strictly observe this Lent in the practice of self denial and in constant prayer and still more constant Communion, remembering at the blessed Altar where we meet our very Saviour Himself, we may at this sad time pour out our souls on behalf of our valiant sons who are fighting for the Peace and Good will Christ came on Earth to bring.

Yours, etc., TREVOR CHANNER.

THE WAR.

FIGHTING SUBMARINES:

WORK OF THE NAVY.

LOW MORALE OF GERMAN TROOPS.

INTRIGUE IN SPAIN.

TROUBLE IN IRELAND.

General.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

NATIONAL SERVICE.

IF VOLUNTARISM PROVES INADEQUATE.

LONDON, February 22nd.
In the House of Commons, Mr. Cave, in moving the second reading of the National Service Bill, gave a pledge that the powers therein would not be used for the purpose of industrial compulsion. If voluntarism proved inadequate, the Government would ask Parliament for compulsory powers.

TARIFF PREFERENCES.

PRESS COMMENTS ON COMMITTEE REPORT.

LONDON, February 21st.
The report by Lord Balfour of Burleigh's Committee on Commercial and Industrial Policy is variously commented on.

The *Morning Post* rejoices at its unanimity, which was evidence of the educational influence of the war, which had reduced old divisions to their true proportions.

The *Times* says:—The striking unanimity and the largeness of the views of the Committee encourage a confident hope of the agreement of the Imperial Conference.

The *Daily Mail* says:—The war has ended the Preference controversy for ever. Mr. Lloyd George, who is trusted by the Empire as, perhaps, no statesman before him, may be trusted to see that the new recommendations do not remain a dead letter.

The *Daily Chronicle* says:—Few will disagree with the Committee's first resolution, agreement may not be difficult on the second, but the third means a direct plunge into the old Chamberlainite policy, with additional complications, due to the fact that we have now got Allies.

The *Daily News* says:—A more surprising document has rarely been issued. The whole discussion is really absurd at this stage. The war has not changed hard facts, on which "Fair Trade" and its allies have hitherto come to grief.

CROWN COLONIES AND THE WAR CONFERENCE.

LONDON, February 22nd.
In the House of Commons, Sir Walter Long announced that he would represent the Crown Colonies at the Imperial War Conference.

BRITISH PRISONERS.

LONDON, February 23rd.
In the House of Lords, Lord Newton stated that the civilian and military British prisoners, respectively, in Germany were 4,500 and 24,500; in Austria, 200 and 250; in Bulgaria nil and 550; in Turkey, 700 and 10,500, including 5,500 Indians. The Government was about to make a proposal to the Turks which would have the effect of releasing twenty per cent. of prisoners. The treatment of prisoners in Austria, he added, completely contrasted with the treatment they received in Germany.

SILVER.

LONDON, February 23rd.
Silver is quoted at 37½, undemanding. The market is dull.

TROUBLE IN IRELAND.

THIRTY-TWO ARRESTS.

LONDON, February 23rd.
Thirty-two arrests under the Defence of the Realm Act, were made in Ireland yesterday, namely, eight in Dublin, and twenty-four in Galway, Limerick, Skibbereen and elsewhere. Those arrested included some of those who were interned after the late rebellion and who were subsequently released.

ANOTHER GERMAN THREAT.

AMSTERDAM, February 23rd.
When the Reichstag opened, the President said that Germany and her Allies were finding refuge in a weapon which would be employed in an unrestricted manner till the defence of their independence and freedom was attained.

AUSTRIAN PREMIER'S OUTBURST.

"PEACEFUL CULTURAL EXPANSION."

Count Tisa, in the House of Deputies at Budapest, vigorously defended German policy, which, he asserted, since 1871, had been one of peaceful, cultural expansion which threatened no nation's vital interests. He accused France and Russia of constant intriguing. It was more natural, he continued, that Germany should strive to pursue a colonial policy, and he declared that if the war concluded as their enemies imagined no agreement could assure a lasting peace. He justified submarine warfare, which he regarded with optimism.

IMPERIAL CONFERENCE.

AUSTRALIAN DELEGATES.

MELBOURNE, February 21st.
The Government has approved of a delegation to the Imperial Conference consisting of the Premier, Mr. W. M. Hughes, Sir Wm. Irvine, and Sir John Forrest. The date of their departure is not fixed.

STRIKE AT KRUPPS.

HIGHER WAGES AND BETTER FOOD.

AMSTERDAM, February 23rd.
The *Telegraaf* announces that 17,000 workers at Krupps have struck for higher wages and better food. Many have been sent to the front as a punishment.

MR. GERARD OVATED AT PARIS.

PARIS, February 23rd.
Mr. Gerard has left here for Spain en route for America. He received an ovation when leaving.

PETTY ANNOYANCES.

ZURICH, February 23rd.
The American Consuls from Germany have arrived after many days delay, through petty annoyances by German officials.

There is no news of the American Consuls in Belgium.

A BRAVE CHAPLAIN.

LONDON, February 23rd.
The King has conferred the D.S.O. on the Military Cross, upon a Bengal Chaplain, the Rev. Ronald Irwin, for services in Mesopotamia.

INDIA AND THE WAR.

STATEMENT BY MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

LONDON, February 23rd.
In the House of Commons, Mr. Chamberlain stated that he would be the only representative of India who would be a member of the Imperial War Cabinet for the purpose of special sittings, but his colleagues from India generally speaking, would accompany him at the sittings and take such part in the deliberations as the subjects under discussion required. He also stated that the Viceroy had informed him that Indians would be eligible for Commissions in the Indian units of the new Indian force as soon as they qualified therefore.

Referring to the steps which were being taken to develop the resources of India for war purposes, Mr. Chamberlain said that inquiries showed that India was able, and most anxious, to render substantial assistance in many directions, and special measures were being taken to supply munitions direct to the forces in Mesopotamia and in the Eastern spheres of operations in order to relieve home industries and shipping. Mr. Chamberlain added that he was communicating with the War Office and the Ministry of Munitions in order to secure that Indian help would be given in the most effective way.

THE EAST LONDON EXPLOSION.

LONDON, February 22nd.
A verdict of death by misadventure was returned at the inquest on several victims of the great East London explosion.

The Coroner said there was nothing to suggest that it was other than a pure accident.

INDIAN LABOUR PROBLEMS.

LONDON, February 23rd.
In the House of Commons, Mr. Chamberlain stated that he had every reason to hope that Indian indentured labour would be abolished within five years. Meanwhile, he was glad to say that the condition of indentured labourers had been greatly ameliorated by the recent changes in Colonial laws. He paid a tribute to the spirit in which the Colonial Administrations had met the Imperial Government in connection with this matter.

SIR WILLIAM ROBERTSON HONOURED.

LONDON, February 23rd.
The King has invested General Sir William Robertson with the Grand Cross of the Order of the Bath (G.C.B.).

BRITISH OFFICER CASUALTIES.

LONDON, February 23rd.
The following casualties are announced.
—Capt. C. C. Codner, Somerset Light Infantry; 2nd. Lieut. Doig, R.F.A.; Lieut. Colonel R.D.A. Eelf, Yorkshire Regt.; 2nd. Lieut. A. T. Gammon, West Surreys; 2nd. Lieut. E. B. Garrard, Honourable Artillery Company; Lieut. S. E. Goodwin, Liverpool Regt.; Capt. A. A. Griggs, R.F.A.; the Rev. G. F. Helm, Chaplain of Holroyd; 2nd. Lieut. C. W. Sergeant, East Surreys; 2nd. Lieut. R. Jarrens, Manchester Regt.; 2nd. Lieut. H. R. Jones, R.G.A.; 2nd. Lieut. W. T. Jourdan, R.F.C.; Captain S. Kenward, Rifle Brigade; and Captain E. C. R. Kilkelly, R.F.A.

EARLIER CABLES.

NEW YORK SENSATION.

INTRIGUE AGAINST BRITAIN.

NEW YORK, February 21st.
A sensation has been caused by the arrest of two men who are charged with conspiring to obtain maps and photographs and other military information concerning Great Britain, which had been sent to the United States and from thence to Germany.

It is understood that fifteen men are involved. They went to Great Britain masquerading as journalists in order to collect information.

AMERICA AND GERMANY.

THE 'YARROWDALE' PRISONERS.

WASHINGTON, February 22nd.
A Note was despatched to Berlin on Monday demanding the release of the *Yarrowdale* prisoners, owing to the absence of a satisfactory response to the previous enquiry. No time-limit has been fixed.

GERMANY'S REPLY.

According to Reuter's correspondent at Amsterdam, a Berlin official announcement states that the American prisoners taken from the *Yarrowdale* will be released after Germany has been officially informed that German ships in America will not be confiscated or their crews interned.

AMERICA AND HER FRIENDS.

WASHINGTON, February 22nd.
The Foreign Relations Committee of the Senate has decided that the Colombian Treaty indemnifying Colombia for the loss of Panama cannot be ratified this Session, despite a letter by President Wilson urging ratification as an act of justice and "because it is possible we shall need in the immediate future all the friends we can secure in Central America, where our interests are critical."

FOOD QUESTION IN NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, February 22nd.
The Mayor has received three deputations of East-side women who tearfully declared that their children were starving owing to the dearth of food. The deputations urged a Municipal appropriation of a million dollars for the purchase of provisions for the poor. The Mayor promised to investigate the conditions.

AMERICAN PROTECTION FULL POWERS.

WASHINGTON, February 22nd.
It is authoritatively stated that President Wilson, while not asking Congress for declarations of war, will request full powers to protect American seamen and ships from submarine.

GERMAN INTRIGUE IN SPAIN.

SUBMARINE PARTS IN A BUOY.

MADRID, February 22nd.
It is officially announced that a buoy containing thirty-one cases with spare parts for German submarines, has been discovered in the vicinity of Capthagona. Three Germans have been arrested in connection with the matter.

GERMAN INTRIGUE IN GERMANY.

FOOD PROBLEMS IN GERMANY.

EFFECTS OF FROST.

AMSTERDAM, February 22nd.
The Prussian Minister of Interior, in a Proclamation, admits that the frost has completely stopped the supply of potatoes, the stocks of which are certain to be exhausted before the new harvest. This has strained the weak available stocks of corn owing to the necessity of distributing flour in the great cities. He therefore orders the rural authorities to take severe measures to compel farmers to supply foodstuffs.

NO EXCHANGE OF CIVILIAN PRISONERS.

LONDON, February 22nd.
In the House of Commons, Mr. Hope stated that the idea of a general exchange of civilian prisoners had been abandoned.

DISSATISFACTION IN NORWAY.

THE GOVERNMENT'S POLICY.

CHRISTIANIA, February 22nd.
There is considerable dissatisfaction in Norway at the Government's policy, and also some abroad, owing to the economic conditions and the recent friction with Great Britain.

GERMANY EMPLOYING WAR PRISONERS.

AMSTERDAM, February 22nd.
Herr Graeber has informed the Reichstag Committee that 750,000 prisoners of war are employed as farm labourers, and that their number will be increased. The garrisons in occupied territories will be employed on farms.

AMERICAN ESPIONAGE BILL PASSED.

WASHINGTON, February 21st.
The Senate has passed the Espionage Bill by 60 votes to 10. The measure gives comprehensive powers, and contains drastic penalties.

GERMAN INTRIGUE IN PERSIA.

STATEMENT IN THE LORDS.

LONDON, February 21st.
In the House of Lords, Lord Crewe said he was surprised that the possibility of German intrigue in Persia had not received sufficient attention from the side of India. He paid a warm tribute to the Amir's loyalty, but feared that it would be necessary to send reinforcements to Persia in order to drive out the Turks. The march of Sir Percy Bykes was most remarkable, and was well worthy of the traditions of the Indian army.

Lord Curzon emphasised that the improvement in the situation in Persia had been materially assisted by the British successes in Mesopotamia, which had caused the Turks 10,000 casualties, and also great loss to their prestige. This would necessitate the bringing of further Turkish reinforcements from the Caucasus, thus easing the position of the Russians and ourselves in the East. The rebellion of the Grand Sherif, who seemed to be in a fair way to consolidate the Arab world against the Turks, also tended to relieve the situation in Persia, which was not altogether free from anxiety. But he thought he might say that the worst was over. The Persian link in the great German chain of ambition and aggrandisement, stretching from Europe to Asia, had been forcibly twisted aside, if not broken, and it would be Great Britain's object to see that the link was broken never to be reformed.

MINIMUM PRICES FOR CORN.

LONDON, February 22nd.
The *Daily Chronicle* states that the Government has decided to guarantee minimum prices on home-grown wheat and oats for three years after the war.

MR. GERARD AT MADRID.

MADRID, February 22nd.
Mr. Gerard, the American Ambassador at Berlin, has arrived here.

Franco-Belgian Front.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

FRENCH DISPERSE PATROLS.

LONDON, February 23rd.
A French communiqué states:—German patrols which attempted to approach our lines, on the north-east of Neuport, Belgium, were dispersed. There has been an artillery duel on the right bank of the Meuse, in the sector of Peperhill. Nothing elsewhere.

BRITISH ACTIVITY.

ENEMY RAIDS REPULSED.

LONDON, February 24th.
Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—We repulsed raids to the east of Vermelles and southward of Neuve Chapelle. The enemy had a number of casualties, and some were taken prisoners.

GERMAN WIRELESS.

LONDON, February 24th.
A German wireless official message states:—We took 250 prisoners in a thrust to the east of Glazow.

GERMAN ADMISSIONS OF REGRET.

MORALE OF THE TROOPS LOW.

LONDON, February 21st.
According to Reuter's correspondent at Headquarters, a copy of an Order by General von Hindenburg, which has been captured, states:—"The operations at Verdun in October and December are serious and regrettable reverses. Incapable officers must be ruthlessly removed. The number of prisoners is unusually large for German troops. Some evidently surrendered without offering serious resistance and without suffering heavy losses. This shows that the morale of the Home troops was low, and the reason thereof must be most carefully investigated. The old spirit of the German infantry must be revived by the strictest drill, *inter alia*. This is a matter of vital importance."

GERMAN CLAIMS.

BRITISH FORCE.

LONDON, February 22nd.
A wireless German official message states that to the south of Armentieres the British forced their way into our positions but we ejected them. We counted 200 British dead between the Dniester and the Wooded Carpathians.

FIGHT IN GERMAN CAMP.

MAASTRICHT, February 22nd.
The newspaper *Les Nouvelles* says:—A sanguinary fight took place between Bavarians and Prussians in a camp at Doreville last week, in which 32 were killed and 200 wounded.

Russian Front.

EARLIER CABLES.

HEAVY ENEMY ATTACK.

LONDON, February 22nd.
A Russian official wireless message states:—A dense attack by the enemy to the north west of the Dornavatra failed.

Naval Activities.

EARLIER CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

SUBMARINE CAMPAIGN.

STATEMENT BY FIRST LORD.

LONDON, February 21st.

In the House of Commons, Sir Edward Carson, First Lord of the Admiralty, stated that the number of armed merchantmen had been increased by over 47 per cent. during the last two months, and they were arming and improving weekly. Sixty-nine Allied and neutral steamers each over 1,000 tons, and totalling 201,000 tons, were sunk during the first eighteen days of December, 1916. Sixty-five steamers, of a total tonnage of 182,533 tons, were sunk in the same period in January, 1917, and eighty-nine steamers of a total tonnage of 268,631, were sunk in the same period in February. Altogether, the vessels sunk in these periods were—118 in December, 91 in January and 134 in February. From February 1st to February 18th, 6,176 ships had arrived, and 5,873 had left the United Kingdom, and it was estimated that there were 1,000 ships in the danger zone at any one time.

The fact that we had forty encounters with submarines during February was an enormous achievement. Regarding the fate of these submarines, official reports showed every degree, from certainty to improbability. As an instance of certainty, they would have the case of the capture of a submarine with its crew by a destroyer. He mentioned as a case of uncertainty, where an airship dropped a bomb just, and where a submarine had immediately previously submerged.

Regarding shipbuilding, the First Lord declared that no single ship would be unoccupied during the coming months, while steps would be taken to reconcile competing claims of warships and merchantmen. He appealed to the nation to consent to the restrictions of imports in order to make the Admiralty's task easier.

COMMANDER'S CLAIM.

PRIZE COURT DECISION.

LONDON, February 22nd.
The Prize Court has disallowed the claim by Lieutenant Commander Boyle, V.C., commanding the submarine *E 14*, for prize money for the sinking in the Sea of Marmora of a transport with 6,000 troops on board, all of whom were drowned, but has allowed the claim in respect of the Turkish gunboat sunk at the same time.

SINKINGS.

LONDON, February 21st.
The only sinking yesterday was the New Foundland fishing schooner, *Mayola*.

LONDON, February 22nd.
The small British steamer *Brigade* and the sailing ship *Centurion* have been sunk.

PLYMOUTH CLOSED TO NEUTRAL SHIPS.

LONDON, February 21st.
A *Gazette* states that Plymouth has been closed to neutral ships.

The Balkans.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

IMPORTANT ACHIEVEMENT.

SALONIKA, February 23rd.
Contact has been established between the French and Italian groups, resulting in the clearance of the road between Gorizia and Leskovic. The importance of this achievement lies in the fact that it completely cuts off postal communication between Athens and the central places, restricting them to wireless and aeroplane services.

RUSSIAN ARTILLERY ACTIVE.

LONDON, February 22nd.
A Roumanian communiqué states:—Violent reciprocal artillery firing has taken place on the northern frontier of Western Moldavia.

Russian artillery was active elsewhere, dispersing the enemy and destroying positions.

FRENCH ACTIVITY.

PARIS, February 22nd.
A communiqué from Salonika states that there has been artillery activity along the whole front, and patrol encounters near Sora and on the Kakukovo front.

We raided a creek near Lake Doiran and took prisoners. Enemy counter-attacks here were repulsed. Our aviation was active. There were several encounters of lights. We bombed enemy columns near Sora and Meluk.

RHEUMATISM, LUMBAGO & SCIATICA.

Rheumatism, Lumbago and Sciatica are three of the most common and most painful complaints and practically arise from the same cause and the name only distinguishes the location of the disease. If the arms and legs are affected it is called Rheumatism; if in the Loins, Lumbago; and in the hip, Sciatica. The attacks are generally brought on by chills when the body is overheated, or by exposure to damp or cold draughts, which act, not upon the bones or muscles but upon the Uric Acid in the Blood, which is the cause of the disease. The failure of the Liver and Kidneys to filter and absorb this Acid leads to an accumulation in the system, tends to clog the circulation, and harden the tissues forming the blood vessels. Thus every movement of the affected parts causes you intense agony. The pains are affected more or less by cold or heat. A damp day will double you up, or the warmth of the bed will intensify the pain. Rheumatism is generally regarded as one of the most difficult ailments to cure, and invariably medicines are tried simply with the hope of temporary relief. Dr. MORSE'S INDIAN ROOT PILLS have been wonderfully successful not merely affording a cessation of the pain, but by driving the poison out of the blood and restoring the joints to their original suppleness. They get at the cause as no other remedy does. They get at the foundation of the complaint which is the blood and a trial will abundantly prove the wonderful efficacy of this remedy.

They are a perfect Blood Purifier and a permanent cure for Rheumatism, Lumbago, Sciatica, Headache, Stomach Complaint, Liver and Kidney Troubles, Piles, Hemorrhoids, and for Female Ailments.

DR. MORSE'S INDIAN ROOT PILLS
FOR THE LIVER

For Sale by WATKINS, Ltd., Wholesale and Retail Agents, and Chemists and Stores generally, at 10 cents per bottle, or will be forwarded on receipt of price by THE W. H. COMSTOCK CO., Ltd., Sole Proprietors 21, Farringdon Avenue, London, England.

THEY DO NOT WEAKEN. THEY DO NOT SICKEN. THEY DO NOT GRIPE.

Fortify yourself with Bovril

IT MUST BE BOVRIL

BRITISH TO THE BACKBONE

A truth which nobody denies

Is, that the maturing of whisky by time and nature cannot be hurried. Only by years in bond can it acquire the mellowness for which

JOHNNIE WALKER

is famous.

JOHNNIE WALKER "White" Label,
Over 50 years old.
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To safeguard these ages our policy for the future is the policy of the past. First and foremost to see that the margin of stocks over sales is always large enough to maintain our unique quality.

Guaranteed same quality throughout the world. To be obtained from the Sole Agents for China: CALDECK, MACGREGOR & CO., Hongkong, Canton, Shanghai, Tientsin, Peking, etc.

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Down 1860, Still going strong.

20,000 DOCTORS
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ALL NOURISHMENT COCOA

Because

"It yields a delicious beverage containing ALL the constituents able to support Life."—Lancet, 38.

PROPERTY AFTER THE WAR.

RECONSTRUCTION OF EUROPE. WILL THERE BE A LABOUR WAR?

[BY H. G. WELLS.]

"Nothing will be the same after the war." This is one of the comforting platitudes with which people cover over voids of thought. They utter it with an air of round-eyed profundity. But to ask in reply, "Then how will things be different?" is in many cases to rouse great resentment. It is almost as rude as saying "Was that thought of yours really a thought?"

Let us confine ourselves to the social economic processes that are going on. So far as I am able to distinguish among the things that are being said in these matters, they may be classified into two groups. There is the question of "how to pay for the war." There is the question of the behaviour of labour after the war. "Will there be a Labour struggle or a violent Labour struggle?" There is the question of the reconstruction of European industry after the war in the face of an America in a state of monetary and economic reaction through non-intervention. My present purpose is a critical one; it is not to solve problems but to set out various currents of thought that are flowing through the general mind. Which current is likely to seize upon and carry human affairs with it, is not for our present speculation.

THE NATION'S WEALTH.

There seems to be two distinct ways of answering the first of the questions I have noted. They do not necessarily contradict each other. Of course, the war is being largely paid for immediately out of the accumulated private wealth of the past. We are buying off the "hold-up" of the private owner upon the material and resources we need, and paying in paper money and war loans. This is not in itself an impoverishment of the community. The wealth of individuals is not the wealth of nations; the two things may easily be contradictory when the rich man's wealth consists of land or natural resources or franchise or privileges the use of which he reluctantly yields for high prices. The conversion of help-up land and material into workable and actively used material in exchange for national debt may be indeed a positive increase in the wealth of the community. And what is happening in all the belligerent countries is the taking over of more and more of the realities of wealth from private hands and, in exchange, the contracting of great masses of debt to private people. The net tendency is towards the disappearance of a reality holding class and the destruction of realities in warfare, and the appearance of a vast rentier class in its place. At the end of the war much material will be destroyed for evermore; transit, food production, and industry will be everywhere enormously socialised, and the country will be liable to pay every year in interest a sum of money exceeding the entire national expenditure before the war. From the point of view of the State, and disregarding material and moral damages, that annual interest is the annual instalment of the price to be paid for the war.

THE STATE AND THE WAGE-BARNER.

Now the interesting question arises whether these great belligerent States may go bankrupt, and, if so, to what extent. States may go bankrupt to the private creditor without repudiating their debt or seeming to pay less to him. They can go bankrupt either by a depreciation of their currency or without touching the gold standard—through a rise in prices. In the end both these things work out to the same end; the creditor gets so many leaves or pairs of boots or workmen's hours of labour for his pound less than he would have got under the previous conditions. One may imagine this process of price (and, of course, wages) increase going on to a limitless extent. Many people are inclined to look to such an increase in prices as a certain outcome of the war, and just so far as it goes, just so far will the burden of the rentier class, their call thus is for goods and services, be lightened. This expectation is very generally entertained and I can see little reason against it. The intensely stupid or dishonest "labour" Press, however, in the interests of the common enemy, which misrepresents Socialism and seeks to misguide labour in Great Britain, ignores these considerations, and positively holds out this prospect of rising prices as an alarming one to the more credulous and ignorant of its readers.

OBLIGATIONS AFTER THE WAR.

But now comes the second way of meeting the after-the-war obligations. This second way is by increasing the wealth of the State and by increasing the national production to such an extent that the payment of the rentier class will not be an overwhelming burthen. Rising prices bill the creditor. Increased production will check the rise in prices and get him a real payment. The outlook for the national creditor seems to be that he will be partly liked and partly paid; how far he will be liked and how far paid depends almost entirely upon this possible increase in production; and there is consequently a very keen and quite unappreciated desire very widely diffused among intelligent and active people, holding War Loan scrip and the like, in all the belligerent countries to see bold and hopeful schemes for State enrichment pushed forward.

The movement towards Socialism is receiving an impulse from new and unexpected quarters; there is now a rentier Socialism, and it is interesting to note that while the London Times is full

of schemes of great State enterprises, for the exploitation of Colonial State lands, for the State purchase and wholesaling of food and many natural products, and for the application of shipping and the great staple industries into vast trusts, which not only the British but the French and Italian Governments may enter as partners the so-called Socialist Press of Great Britain is chiefly busy about the draughts in the cell of Mr. Penner Brockway and the refusal of Private Ductors to put on his khaki trousers. The New Statesman and the Fabian Society, however, display a wider intelligence.

There is a great variety of suggestions for this increase of public wealth and production. Many of them have an extreme reasonableness. The extent to which they will be adopted depends, no doubt, very largely upon the politician and permanent official, and both those classes are prone to panic in the presence of reality. In spite of its own interest in restraining a rise in prices, the old official "salariat" is likely to be obstructive to any such innovation. It is the resistance of spurs and red tabs to military innovations over again. This is the resistance of quills and red tape. On the other hand the organisation of Britain for war has "officialised" a number of industrial leaders and created a large body of temporary and adventurous officials. They may want to carry on into peace production the great new factories the war has created.

At the end of the war, for example, every belligerent country will be in urgent need of cheap automobiles for farmers, tradesmen, and industrial purposes generally. America is now producing such automobiles at a price of eighty pounds. But Europe will be heavily in debt to America; her industries will be disorganised, and there will therefore be no sort of return payment possible for these hundreds of thousands of automobiles. A country that is neither creditor nor debtor cannot be an importer. Consequently, though these cheap cars may be stacked as high as the Washington Monument in America, they will never come to Europe. On the other hand, the great shell factories of Europe will be standing idle and ready, for conversion to the new task. The imperative common sense of the position seems to be that the European Governments should set themselves straight away to out-Ford Ford, and provide their own people with cheap road transport.

THE OLD WAY AND THE NEW WAY.

But there comes in the question whether this common-sense course is inevitable. Suppose the mental energy left in Europe after the war is insufficient for such a constructive feat as this. There will certainly be the obstruction of official pedantry, the hold-up of this vested interest and that the greedy desire of "private enterprise" to exploit the occasion upon rather more costly and less productive lines, the general distrust left by ignorant and unimaginative people of a new way of doing things. The process, after all, may not get done in the obviously wise way. This will not mean that Europe will buy American cars. It will be quite unable to make anything that America will not be able to make more cheaply for itself. But it will mean that Europe will go on with more sluggish and clumsy and wastefully at a lower economic level. Hampered transport means hampered production of other things, and an increasing inability to buy abroad. And so we go down and down.

TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT.

It does not follow that, because a course is the manifestly right and advantageous course for the community, it will be taken. I am reminded of this by a special basket in my study here, into which I pitch letters, circulars, pamphlets, add so forth as they come to hand from a gentleman named Gattie and his friends, Mr. Adrian Ross, Mr. Roy Horne, Mr. Henry Murray, and others. His particular project is the construction of a Railway Clearing House for London. It is an absolutely admirable scheme. It would cut down the heavy traffic in the streets of London to about one-third; it would enable us to run the goods traffic of England with less than half the number of railway trucks we now employ; it would turn over enormous areas of valuable land from their present use as railways, goods yards and sidings; it would save time in the transit of goods and labour in their handling. It is a quite beautifully worked out scheme. For the last eight or ten years this group of devoted fanatics has been pressing this undertaking upon an "indifferent country" with increasing vehemence and astonishment by that indifference. The point is that its adoption, though it would be of enormous general benefit, would be of no particular benefit to any leading man or highly-placed official. On the other hand, it would upset all sorts of individuals who are in a position to obstruct it quietly and they do so. Meaning no evil, I dip my hand in the accumulation and extract a leaflet by the all too zealous Mr. Murray. In it he denounces various public officials by name as cheats and scoundrels, and invites a prosecution for libel.

In that fashion nothing will ever get done. There is no prosecution, but for all that I do not give up Mr. Murray about the men he names. These gentlemen are just comfortable gentlemen, own brothers to these old generals of ours who will not take of their spurs. They are probably quite charming people, except that they know nothing of that Fear of God which searches the heart. Why should they bother?

LABOUR.

So many of these after-the-war problems bring one back to the question how far the war has put the Fear of God

WHAT THE HUN WANTS.

BRITISH COLONIES IN AFRICA.

Herr Zimmermann, who used to be political editor of the Lokal-Anzeiger, and before entering that branch of the Government service was a Colonial official in Africa, airs his views in the *Vossische Zeitung* (January 2nd). They are diverting enough to justify quotation in detail.

"Both England and Russia," says Zimmermann, "sold territory belonging to us and our Allies, but they do not talk about punishing us by permanently retaining it. They, like France, notwithstanding that the military position is unfavourable for them, want to get at us directly. In Germany, however, those who pretend to be the bitterest foes of England want to allow France and Belgium to do the paying for England by taking Belgium and perhaps a French Channel-port (i.e., Calais).

"The British lion, of course, is not yet laid low, and it is not the German custom to divide the hide of a beast which is still running at large. But it is extremely strange that in one of the quarters which are constantly clamouring that U-boat ruthlessness will bring England to her knees the opinion is expressed that our principal foe can only be indirectly chastised. Without attributing any exaggerated importance to the U-boat, I am convinced that England will be defeated. We shall not smash her to bits (*zertrümmern*) or even compel her to sue for a humiliating peace, but England must be brought to confess that she is unable to continue the war. When we have got the British lion so far he will have to settle for himself instead of letting others pay."

"I know that we cannot annex Canada, South Africa, or Australia. But does not England possess in Africa the Colonies of Nigeria, the Gold Coast, British East Africa, Uganda, and the Sudan? England's policy looks to the foundation of a great African Empire. An army of African mercenaries is to help England to defeat India. Only British expansion in Africa, where soldiers were secured for excellent the Indians in warlike qualities, could England's alliance with Russia. Without strong possessions in Africa England would have to tremble for India, and look for Allies against Russia. As long as England was not strong in Africa Turkey was her natural ally in respect of the Sudan and the South African War did England become Turkey's foe."

CENTRAL AFRICA MUST BE OURS.

"If England loses this war she must lose a part of her African Colonies. This will compel her to change her policy and resume towards Russia the policy of the Bismarckian era. We must destroy for ever England's coalition plans against us. That will be just punishment for her. Let us cease comparing the present times and war to the Napoleonic wars against England. There must be no Napoleonic English peace or any peace designed simply to better our own position for a next war. The peace must not be confined to frontier alterations in Europe. It must embrace the whole world, just as the war does. The main thing is not that we shall be able the better to attack England in a next war. The important thing is that we force her to revolutionise her entire policy and that we compel the whole world to take up a different attitude toward Germanism throughout the globe."

"England must lose her Colonies in Central Africa. They must become parts of a great German Empire in Africa. England must furthermore be compelled to indemnify all those Germans in our Colonial territory and in foreign countries whom she has so shamelessly robbed. These Germans, then, we shall assimilate in one vast self-contained German Colonial empire. They will constitute a sturdy foundation for a splendid flourishing imperial realm in Central Africa."

SIT ENGLAND DIRECTLY.

"What we must demand from Belgium and France is a thing for itself. Let us not confuse these claims with those we have against England. Let us not, above all, imagine that a revolution of world political conditions would be brought about by the occupation of Belgium. Such a revolution would only come if England is directly hit. She can only be so hit—that is to say, her so-called 'encircling policy' can only be broken up—if she is no longer able to stretch herself out in Africa. The Anglo-French arrangement of 1904 for partition of Africa—East and South Africa, English West Africa, French must be cancelled. The moment it is the Western Powers, especially England, will be forced to adopt another attitude. Thus our main war object, the prevention of fresh coalitions against Germany, will be best achieved."

into the hearts of responsible men. There is really no other reason in existence that I can imagine why they should ask themselves the question, "Have I done my best?" and that still more important question, "Am I doing my best now?" and so while I hear plenty of talk about the great reorganisations that are to come after the war, while there is the stir of doubt among the rentiers whether after all they will get paid, while the unavoidable stresses and sacrifices of the war are making many people question the rightfulness of much that they did as a matter of course, and of much that they took for granted, I perceive there is also something dull and not very articulate in this European world, something resistant, and there is, like the obstinate rolling over a heavy sleeper after he has been called upon to get up, "Just a little danger."

Just for my time.

One thought alone seems to make these more intractable people anxious, I thrust it in as my last stimulant when everything else has failed. "There will be a fearful trouble with labour after the war," I say. They try to persuade themselves that military discipline is breaking labour—*Daily News and Leader*.

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